



*L. J. James*

WELLINGTON (SOM) RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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A N N U A L R E P O R T  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1957

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BY

DR. HUGH MORRISON

M.B., C.H.B., D.P.H.

AND

B.R. JAMES

M.R.S.I.



WELLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR 1957

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# WELLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

## STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1957.

### I. GENERAL

Area (in Acres) ... ..	37,911
Estimate of Resident Population mid year 1957 ... ..	8,030
Census Population ( Preliminary Report 1951) ... ..	7,804
Number of Inhabited Houses according to the Rate Books on 31st December, 1957 ... ..	2577
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1957 ... ..	£55584
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate, 31st December, 1957 ... ..	£222.6.8.

### II. EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR. 1957.

<u>1. Births</u>				
(a) <del>Live</del> Births.				
	M	F	Total	
Legitimate	54	52	106	Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 13.95
Illegitimate	4	2	6	
Totals	58	54	112.	

Standardised Birth Rate, Wellington R.D. ... ..	15. 9.
Birth Rate, England and Wales .. ...	16. 1

(b) Still Births	Total	...	...	...	3
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Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births -					
	Wellington R.D.	...	...	...	26 . 09
	England and Wales	...	...	...	22 . 5

Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population -					
	Wellington R.D.C.	...	...	...	0 . 37

### 2. Deaths.

(a) Total Deaths .. ...	83
Crude Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	10.34
Standardised Death Rate, Wellington R.D. ....	9.01
Death Rate for England and Wales .. ...	11.5.

(b) Maternal Mortality			
Total maternal deaths from all causes	...	...	0

(c) Infant Mortality						
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age						
Total				...	...	2
Deaths among legitimate infants				...	...	2
" " illegitimate infants				...	...	0
Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births						
Wellington R.D.				...	...	17.39
England and Wales				...	...	23.1

(d) Deaths from Cancer ( all ages) .	
Total ... ..	13



# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1957.

	M.	F.	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other .....	-	-	-
Syph-ilitic disease.....	-	-	-
Diphtheria .....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough .....	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis .....	-	1	1
Measles .....	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus .....	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .....	3	4	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .....	-	-	-
Diabetes .....	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nerv-ous system .....	6	10	16
Coronary disease, angina .....	7	3	10
Hypertension with heart disease .....	1	1	2
Other heart disease .....	4	4	8
Other circulatory disease .....	2	5	7
Influenza .....	-	-	-
Pneumonia .....	2	-	2
Bronchitis .....	4	1	5
Other diseases of respiratory system .....	3	-	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	-	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .....	-	1	1
Nephritis and neprosis .....	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	2	-	2
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion .....	-	-	-
Congenital malformation .....	1	-	1
Other defined and all-defined diseases .....	2	3	5
Motor vehicle accidents .....	-	-	-
All other accidents.....	2	1	3
Suicide .....	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war .....	-	-	-
All causes - Total	44	39	83

## INFANT MORTALITY DURING 1957.

There were two deaths in infants up to the age of one year, the causes being prematurity and congenital defect. This gave a rate of 1,000 births of 17.39.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### DOMICILIARY SERVICES

There are three general medical practitioners living and carrying on practice in the rural district. Practitioners from Wellington and from the neighbouring districts also cover some of the territory. There are adequate arrangements when required, for domiciliary consultation with consultants serving the Taunton and West Somerset area, and speaking generally, the practice of medicine in the district is of a high standard. The provisions for domiciliary nursing are satisfactory and excellent work has been done by the Home Help Service administered by the Somerset County Council.

### HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Hospital Services of the district are administered by the Taunton Hospital Management Committee, under the general direction of the S. Region Hospital Board. Some of the provision for the needs of various types of patient are detailed below:-

(1) General Medical and Surgical  
The Taunton and Somerset Hospital together with Musgrove Park Hospital which is also situated in the Borough of Taunton, and which is probably eventually destined to supersede the first-named establishment, cater for most medical and surgical conditions. Musgrove Park Hospital takes most of the adult cases; and also has a comprehensive Paediatric Department. The Taunton and Somerset Hospital is in the meantime dealing with Orthopaedics and Ophthalmology. It also houses the Casualty Department for the area. Both Hospitals have out-patients facilities in addition to in-patient beds. Certain cases requiring special investigation or treatment such as neurosurgery or radiotherapy are referred to Bristol Hospital for this purpose. Wellington Cottage Hospital provides valuable facilities for local cases which do not require to be sent to larger institutions, and complete consultant cover is available for the work carried out there.

(2) Chronic Sick Patients are received into Hospitals chiefly those in Taunton and Wellington, which have now passed from Public Assistance administration to that of the Regional Hospital Board. The status and reputation of these institutions is improving, more or less rapidly, as their association with the less desirable features of the old Poor Law fades from public memory. A geriatric service for the Taunton area is in process of development.

For the first time in this District it was found necessary to carry out court procedure under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, to secure the compulsory removal to an institution of two elderly persons. In each case great efforts were made to avoid this course of action but these were unavailing. The court cases involved resulted in no special difficulties, and after the two patients had been in their new surroundings for a very short time they settled down happily and apparently had no regrets about leaving their former unsatisfactory surroundings.

(3) Infectious Diseases. Cases of infectious disease from Wellington Rural District are sent to the Taunton Isolation Hospital situated in the Borough of Taunton. The bulk of the Isolation Hospital work is done in cubicle blocks. The hospital has been admitting in the past year or two many cases, especially among children, of various pyrexial and nutritional illnesses not coming into the strict category of notifiable diseases, which would formerly have been treated in General Hospitals. Home isolation is carried out wherever the home conditions are satisfactory. Most cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are admitted to the Isolation Hospital and also cases of Puerperal Pyrexia. Cases of poliomyelitis and patients suspected to be suffering from



this condition have become one of the chief problems, especially in the summer months

Tuberculosis Cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis come under the Regional Hospital Board for treatment which is supervised by the Chest Physicians for the area. The Sanatoria are at Quantock, Wincanton, and Taunton for Pulmonary cases. Cases requiring Orthopaedic treatment are admitted to Chard Sanatorium and to Bath Orthopaedic Hospital. Pretubercular children and children with Tubercular Glands are sent to Compton Bishop Children's Home near Axbridge.

Poliomyelitis Suspected cases are sent for diagnosis to the Taunton Isolation Hospital. If the condition is confirmed they are seen by Regional Specialists who arrange for continuation treatment whether as out-patients or as in-patients at Bath Orthopaedic Hospital.

Small-pox Provision for the accommodation of cases of Small-pox is made at a Hospital at Cossington, near Bridgwater. Fortunately there has been no need to use the institution for this purpose for many years.

(4) Mental Sick Cases are admitted to the Mental Hospital at Tone Vale, Nr. Taunton. The psychiatric specialists conduct out-patients clinics for the area, and it is felt that now, more than ever before, mental patients are having the benefit of treatment at an earlier and more hopeful stage of the disease.

Mentally defective cases are well provided for at Sandhill Park Hospital which is situated in Taunton Rural District.

#### Clinics and Treatment Centres.

##### Tuberculosis:

Clinics for patients suffering from this disease and for the supervision of suspects and contacts, are held by the Chest Physicians at Musgrove Park Hospital. There is an After-Care Committee working in co-operation with these clinics. Mass radiography has been carried out from time to time on various groups of the County population, by a team working from a centre in Bristol, but this service has not been called upon to deal with residents in Wellington Rural District.

##### Venereal Disease :

A combined Clinic and Treatment Centre is carried on at the Taunton and Somerset Hospital which caters for male and female patients of this and surrounding districts. The Centre has now come under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board.

Early cases of syphilis are usually sent to Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, for a fortnight's intensive penicillin treatment as in-patients. Afterwards they continue observation and treatment at the Taunton Clinic.

These conditions have latterly become much less common in the District.

##### Maternity and Child Welfare

The Maternity and Child Welfare Acts are administered by the County Council under whose supervision are also the Health Visitors and Midwives practising within the area. There is an excellent Maternity Home in the Urban District of Wellington to which a considerable number of women from the Rural District are admitted for confinement. Obstetric Consultants in Taunton are available for consultation with Medical Practitioners in the District. Abnormal and complicated cases can be admitted for hospital treatment when necessary. Every case of Puerperal Pyrexia and Maternal Mortality is investigated by the Medical staff of the County Council



### Laboratory Facilities:

The Public Health Laboratory Service has a Laboratory in Taunton at which all the usual specimens connected with Public Health work, such as throat and nose swabs, blood, faecis and sputum are examined. The Staff of the Laboratory also give very useful assistance in the investigation of epidemic outbreaks. Chemical Analyses are carried out as requested by the County Analyst who has his Laboratory in Taunton.

### Ambulance Facilities:

Ambulance transport for all cases has now become the responsibility of the Somerset County Council. A central ambulance department has been set up which arranges for vehicles to be provided as required.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

There are ten public supplies, five of them chlorinated, and these serve about half the population of the district. They are regularly tested and are generally satisfactory in quality. Some of the areas supplied by them, particularly Langford Budville and Hillcommon experience water shortage from time to time. There is also a number of private piped supplies which yield somewhat variable quantities of water, but which are kept <sup>under</sup> close supervision. The rest of the District is supplied mainly from wells, most of which come into the shallow category and are subject to contamination. Speaking generally, there is room for great improvement in the water supply of the district, and amongst the schemes projected to provide this improved supply are a link with the Clatworthy scheme which is in course of development by the Taunton Borough Council, a scheme to supply the south-western part of the district from a borehole at Ashbrittle and springs at Payton, near Wellington, <sup>and</sup> separate small schemes for the outlying areas of Waterrow and Bathealton. Details of the water supply position in the various parishes are furnished in a later portion of this report.

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal:

There are adequate arrangements for water-carriage of sewage in Wiveliscombe Milverton, the region of Ham in the parish of West Buckland and the region of Holywell Lake in the parish of Wellington Without, Langley in the parish of Wiveliscombe Without and in Oake village. In these areas the disposal of sewage is not entirely satisfactory, in part of Wiveliscombe and Holywell Lake. A number of other villages and hamlets have piped drainage arrangements but quite inadequate treatment of sewage. The remainder of the district is dependent on septic tanks and pail closets. Public Health and amenity demand improved sewerage provisions and this need grows particularly urgent when main water supplies become widely distributed. Schemes are urgently needed at Bradford-on-Tone, West Buckland and Nynhehead.

### Public Cleansing :

Household refuse is collected weekly from Wiveliscombe and Milverton and monthly from the rest of the district, and is disposed of by tipping. It is felt that one month is too long for refuse to be allowed to accumulate, particularly in the hotter season of the year.

### Housing:

Houses continued to be provided by the Council, and the waiting list of families requiring accommodation is now being substantially reduced. The emphasis will henceforward fall more on the building of houses to replace unfit property, as part of the Council's Slum clearance programme.



## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases in the District during the year calls for no special comment. The only one of these diseases occurring in substantial numbers of cases was measles, and here the figure was little more than half of that of the previous year.

The following table shows the number of notifications received for Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) age group and numbers admitted to Taunton Isolation Hospital:-

DISEASES	TOTAL	AGE GROUP								No. admitted to Isolation Hospital
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over	Not known	
Whooping Cough	7	-	1	4	2	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	82	-	10	16	49	5	1	1	-	-
Scarlatina	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Prim. Pneu.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	93	-	12	20	52	5	1	3		1

The following table shows some of the notification rates for Wellington Rural District compared with those for last year.

<u>DISEASE</u>	Notification Rates for Wellington R.D.C.	
	1957	1956
Whooping Cough	0. 87	0.13
Measles	10. 21	18.51
Scarlatina	0. 25	0.25
Pneumonia	0. 12	0.25
Dysentery	0. 12	0.38

The above figures are calculated Rates per 1,000 civilian population

### Diphtheria Prophylaxis

For the seventeenth year in succession, no cases of Diphtheria have occurred in the district. It is a very gratifying state of affairs to be attributed largely to the Immunisation Campaign which has been in progress since the early 1940's. Immunisation is carried out by the general medical practitioners in the district and also by the medical staff of the Somerset County Council. It is felt that the opportunity should be taken of stating in this report that the recent trend as regards Diphtheria immunisation has not been entirely satisfactory. It is found that parents are becoming more difficult to convince of the necessity for this measure and are tending to postpone immunisation to a later age. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that all children should be immunised well before reaching the age of one year, and that this protection should be reinforced by a boosting injection at the time when the child is ready to go to school. If the general level of immunisation in the population is allowed to drop, there is no doubt that Diphtheria is almost certain to appear again in our midst with all its attendant dangers to the health and lives of our children.

It is customary in the county of Somerset to combine immunisation against whooping cough with the course used to protect against diphtheria, and this is also a most valuable public health measure, since whooping cough is now probably the most serious of the common infectious diseases affecting young children.

In previous reports the total number of children known to have completed a course of immunisation at various ages was stated. These figures are no longer available from the County Council, who are responsible for keeping records of diphtheria immunisation, but the following table indicates the number of children who completed a full course during the year 1957:

Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 9	10 - 14	Total
54	26	-	-	1	4	-	85

### Poliomyelitis Prophylaxis

During the year 1957 immunisation against poliomyelitis became available for the first time in this country. This is a method of protection developed in America, which involves the injection of two small doses of vaccine at a month's interval. The precise degree of protection conferred by this procedure is not known with certainty, but is probably in the region of 75%, and although this falls below complete protection it is almost certain that any child contracting the disease after having been immunised will suffer from it in a much less severe degree. During the year 17 children from the Rural District were immunised, and at the end of the year there was every prospect of vaccine becoming available in much greater amount so that immunisation could be offered to the whole child population.

### TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1957.

The following form of return is required by the Ministry of Health:-

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 20 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25 .....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

At the end of the year the Tuberculosis Registers contained the names and addresses of 25 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 4 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

The small increase in the number of pulmonary cases on the Register is accounted for by transfers of previously notified cases from other districts, who have changed their place of residence. From the above table it will be seen that the year produced only one new notification of tuberculosis and this gives an indication of the great fall in the prevalence of this disease which is taking place at present throughout the country.

No action had to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to persons suffering from Tuberculosis in the milk trade, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.



## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

### WATER SUPPLY

Public Supplies serve the following areas :-

<u>Bathealton P.S.</u>	Village of Bathealton.
<u>Milverton P.S.</u>	Parish of Milverton (except certain outlying parts).
<u>Wiveliscombe P.S.</u>	Parish of Wiveliscombe.
<u>Chipstable P.S.</u>	Chipstable Village.
<u>Sampford Moor P.S.</u>	Sampford Moor Village.
<u>Langley P.S.</u>	Lower part of Langley.
<u>Langley Marsh P.S.</u>	Part of Langley Marsh.
<u>Taunton Borough Supply</u>	Bradford-on-Tone. West Buckland (part). Oake.
<u>Taunton R.D.C. (Bagborough) Supply</u>	Fitzhead.
<u>Langford Budville P.S.</u>	Langford Budville Village.
<u>Blackmoor P.S.</u>	Village of Blackmoor (in Parish of West Buckland).

Small Supplies vested in the Council by virtue of Sect: 124 Public Health Act, 1936, serve the following areas :-

<u>Ashbottle (Public Pump)</u>	- Ashbottle Village.
<u>Stawley</u>	- Tracebridge.
<u>Wellington Without</u>	- Holywell Lake (part).
<u>Thorne-St-Margaret</u>	- Village (part).

There are private piped supplies at :-

<u>Langford Budville</u>	- Bindon Wellisford.
<u>Milverton</u>	- Springgrove.
<u>Nynehead</u>	- Village (Chorwell Supply).
<u>Stawley</u>	- Appley - Cothay - Greenham - Kittisford.
<u>Wellington Without</u>	- Holywell Lake (Part).
<u>West Buckland</u>	- Poole.

The remainder of the district is supplied by individual wells, (mainly shallow), springs etc. Many of these are contaminated and some are liable to fail.

The following supplies are chlorinated :-

Wiveliscombe P.S. (except borehole).  
 Milverton P.S. (except borehole).  
 Taunton Borough Supply.  
 Blackmoor P.S.  
 Langford Budville - Higher and Lower Wellsmead Supplies.

Users of water obtained from supplies at Ashbrittle, Chipstable, Holywell Lake, Nynhead, Tracebridge and Thorne St. Margaret have been advised that the water should be boiled.

Bacteriological examinations and chemical analyses were made with the following results :-

#### PIPED SUPPLIES

##### RAW WATER

##### TREATED WATER

BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL		BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL	
Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
29	12	9	Nil	35	16	3	Nil

##### WELL WATER

##### SATISFACTORY

##### UNSATISFACTORY

CHEMICAL	BACTERIOLOGICAL	CHEMICAL	BACTERIOLOGICAL
Nil	15	Nil	35

None of the supplies are known to have plumbo-solvent action.

#### WATER SUPPLIES FROM PUBLIC MAINS

Direct to Houses

By standpipes

No. of Dwellings	Population	No. of Dwellings	Population
1160	4168	60	190

#### Future Proposals

1. The development of the new bore at Ashbrittle and the Payton Springs to serve the south western part of the district. This scheme has been approved and a tender accepted.



2. The acquisition of the Chorwell supply serving part of the village of Nynhehead. Ministry approval has been received and negotiations are proceeding.
3. The supply to the remainder of the district not already served awaits the completion of the Taunton Borough scheme to draw water from Clatworthy.

The following Summary shows in alphabetical order, the present water supplies in the District by Parishes, giving their acreage and population according to the Census of 1951.

ASHBRITTLE: 2,158 Acres. 192 Population.

Pump on Village Green. Remainder by wells.

A temporary supply from the borehole was provided during the summer months.

BATHEALTON: 2,598 Acres. 192 Population.

Small piped supply to village. Remainder by wells and springs.

BRADFORD: 1,814 Acres. 442 Popn.,

Piped supply through Parish from Taunton Corporation mains.

CHIPSTABLE: 3,455 Acres. 295 Popn.,

CHIPSTABLE VILLAGE - Well supply laid on to seven houses with standpipes for the remainder of the Village. The water is contaminated and should be chlorinated.

WATERROW VILLAGE - A new scheme taking water from springs at Spears was carried out during the year. A few properties are not yet connected.

Remainder of parish, wells and springs.

FITZHEAD: 1,247 Acres. 209 Popn.,

Piped supply from Taunton R.D.C. mains at Halse. All but three houses are supplied from this main.

LANGFORD BUDVILLE: 2,234 Acres. 386 Popn.,

The three small piped supplies were acquired by the Council during 1949.

Two of these supplies are now chlorinated.

Shortages are experienced at times.

MILVERTON: 3,465 Acres. 1,252 Popn.,

Piped supply from covered reservoir at Furbers Well. Minimum Yield 12,000 G.P.D., normal 30,000 G.P.D.,

Two springs below Furbers Well. Minimum Yield 3,400 G.P.D., normal 40,000 G.P.D.,

Pumped to reservoir by Diesel 3 h.p., Lister Engine with Easton and Johnson Treble Ram Pump, 2,500 G.P.H., or Lister 2½ h.p., Petrol Engine, 1,400 G.P.H., Borehole at Olands feeds into 6 - inch trunk main by means of Beresford Submersible Electric Pump with booster pump at ground level. Output 1,400 G.P.H.

Some outlying parts of the parish are not supplied from the main.

Springgrove is supplied by a small private piped supply.

NYNEHEAD: 1,706 Acres. 352 Popn.,

16 Council houses supplied through pipes by storage tank and electric

pump from well, known to be contaminated.

Private piped supply and private wells. Most of the wells are shallow and the supplies unsatisfactory. Negotiations for the acquisition of the private supply are proceeding. The provision of an electric pump at the source and chlorinating apparatus appears to have overcome shortages and contamination.

OAKE: 1,754 Acres. 359 Popn.,

Mains (extended from the Taunton Corporation Supply) serve most of the Parish and only a few houses remain to be connected to the supply.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL: 1,216 Acres. 310 Popn.,

Sampford Moor is supplied by spring from covered collecting tank and piped to hamlet.

Remainder springs and wells.

Shortages are experienced periodically at Whiteball.

STAWLEY: 2,663 Acres. 269 Popn.,

Greenham :- Small piped supply.

Tracebridge :- Small supply (known to be contaminated) one standpipe.

Privately owned piped supplies serve properties at Appley, Cothay and Kittisford.

Remainder by wells and springs.

THORNE ST. MARGARET: 824 Acres. 89 Popn.,

There is one small piped supply in the centre of the village known to be contaminated.

The remainder is supplied by springs and wells.

WELLINGTON WITHOUT: 2,933 Acres. 482 Popn.,

Holywell Lake is supplied by public springs with shoot, and a privately owned piped supply.

Remainder is by wells and springs.

WEST BUCKLAND: 3,739 Acres. 811 Popn.,

West Buckland is supplied from the Taunton Borough mains, except :-

1. Poole which is served by a small private piped supply.
2. Blackmoor which has a small public supply. The water is chlorinated but this has not proved to be satisfactory and users have been advised to boil the water.

WIVELISCOMBE: 201 Acres. 1,218 Popn.,

Water is obtained from Springs at Withycombe gathering ground to a covered reservoir and piped to the Town. Minimum Yield 16,000 G.P.H., Capacity of reservoir 36,000 gallons. The water is chlorinated, the plant being a Wallace and Tiernan Automatic Chlorometer in duplicate. Water is obtained from a borehole 285 feet deep and pumped by a 15 h.p. Electric Motor direct mounted on a vertical spindle deep well turbine pump with 14 stages at bottom, 4 stages booster pump at top. (Mirrlees Watson Engineering Co. Ltd., Glasgow). Delivers 5,400 gallons per hour into 4 inch service main from reservoir. The plant is not duplicated.



WIVELISCOMBE WITHOUT: 5,904 Acres. 950 Popn.,

Langley Cross and Lower Langley supplied by spring from covered collection tank and piped to hamlet.

Borehole at Langley Marsh serves seven properties.

Small spring supply at Maundown. Remainder springs and wells.

#### SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

WIVELISCOMBE - The reconstruction of the Hillsmoor Disposal Works was completed during the year.

NYNEHEAD - A scheme for new sewerage and sewage disposal works was approved and work started during the year.

WEST BUCKLAND ) - Schemes for sewerage and sewage disposal works have  
LANGFORD BUDVILLE ) been prepared and Ministry approval is awaited.

BRADFORD-ON-TONE - Scheme is being prepared.

FITZHEAD - Scheme is to be prepared.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL - Present drainage conditions are unsatisfactory and a sewerage scheme is necessary.

The existing Sewerage and Sewage Disposal of the district is as follows :-

ASHBRITTLE: 2,158 Acres. 192 Population.

Septic tank for four Council houses.

A sewer in the centre of the village taking waste water only.

A few properties have septic tanks but most have pail closets, with waste water drainage to ditches etc.

BATHEALTON: 2,598 Acres. 192 Popn.,

A few privately owned septic tanks.

Others have slop water drains to ditches, etc., and pail closets.

Three new Council houses have a septic tank and filter.

BRADFORD: 1,814 Acres. 442 Popn.,

Most properties in the centre of the village drain by a sewer to Gingleys Pit near the roadside leading to Hele. This gives rise to serious nuisances.

Drainage from Three Bridges area causes nuisance and pollution.

Eight Council Houses drain to a septic tank and filter. Complaints of pollution by the effluent of these works have been received.

Four new Council houses and two other houses drain to disposal works at Regents Green.

Properties at Heatherton are sewered to septic tanks.

Certain other properties have private septic tanks.

The need for a complete sewerage scheme has become urgent.

CHIPSTABLE: 3,455 Acres. 295 Popn.,

There is a small sewer taking waste water only in the centre of the village.

Various other properties have septic tanks, including four Council houses at Waterrow and four at Chipstable Village.

Some properties at Waterrow drain to the river but little nuisance is experienced on account of heavy dilution with river water.

FITZHEAD: 1,247 Acres. 209 Popn.,  
Sewers serving most of the village are unsatisfactory and there are no proper disposal works. Complaints of nuisance arise from time to time.  
Council houses have separate disposal works; one at Church Road has been reconstructed.

LANGFORD BUDVILLE: 2,234 Acres. 386 Popn.,  
Most of the village drains to a field known as "Petersmead", but although most of the drainage passes through septic tanks, a nuisance is caused on adjoining fields.  
Certain other properties drain to a ditch at the rear of the Martlett Inn.  
Most properties have W.C's but some have pails.  
Ministry approval to a new sewerage scheme is awaited.

MILVERTON: 3,465 Acres. 1,252 Popn.,  
The disposal works have been reconstructed on another site and consist of primary and secondary settlement tanks and bacteria beds.  
Sewers also serve Preston Bowyer.

NYNEHEAD: 1,706 Acres. 352 Popn.,  
The school and certain other properties connect to a small sewer at Lower Nynehead. The discharge from this causes a serious nuisance.  
There are no treatment works.  
16 Council houses are drained to a septic tank and filter. These works are inadequate. A few other properties have septic tanks but most of the cottages have pail closets with slop-water drainage to ditches etc.  
A complete sewerage and sewage disposal scheme is in course of construction.

OAKE: 1,754 Acres. 359 Popn.,  
Oake Village is served by new sewers and sewage disposal works. Properties at Hillcommon and Hillfarrance drain to septic tanks etc.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL: 1,216 Acres. 310 Popn.,  
There are small sewers serving properties at Sampford Moor, Sampford Village and Beambridge. Nuisances are created by the discharge of sewage into ditches.  
12 Council houses drain to septic tanks and filters.

STAWLEY: 2,663 Acres. 269 Popn.,  
Certain houses have septic tanks but most houses have pail closets and slop-water drainage to ditches.  
Stawley school and four new Council houses at Appley drain to septic tank and filter.

THORNE ST. MARGARET: 824 Acres. 89 Popn.,  
Private tanks to some houses.  
Remainder have pail closets.

WELLINGTON WITHOUT: 2,933 Acres. 482 Popn.,  
There is a sewer with temporary disposal works at Holywell Lake.  
Certain other properties have septic tanks and others pail closets with waste water drainage to soakaways etc.



WEST BUCKLAND: 3,739 Acres. 811 Popn.,

Council house estates and certain other properties drain to septic tanks. Most of the village drainage discharges into a ditch near the school and gives rise to nuisance. A sewerage scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry.

About 30 houses at Ham drain to tanks and filter; other sewers exist at Hookaller, Willowbrook and Chelston.

Certain other properties have pail closets.

WIVELISCOMBE: 201 Acres. 1,218 Popn.,

All properties drain to sewers which take a good deal of surface water also and are mainly defective.

Sewage passes to two sewage works at Hillsmoor and Style.

Hillsmoor: These works are being reconstructed.

Style: These works which also takes sewage from Langley consist of primary and secondary settlement tanks and bacteria bed.

WIVELISCOMBE WITHOUT: 5,904 Acres. 950 Popn.,

Most of the properties at Langley and Langley Marsh are connected to the sewer.

Four Council houses at Croford and certain other properties drain to septic tanks.

Other houses have pail closets.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collections are made as follows :-

Weekly: Wiveliscombe and Milverton.

Monthly: Remainder of the district (except certain remote properties).

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Milverton Tip. There are now few complaints of nuisance and rat infestation.

Refuse is collected by direct labour using a covered vehicle.

A renewed appeal to householders to improve the method of storage of refuse awaiting collection has been largely ignored.

Only the adoption of Byelaws under Sect: 72 Public Health Act, 1936 will secure the necessary improvement.

#### SCHOOLS.

	<u>Water Supply</u>	<u>Drainage etc.</u>
<u>Bradford</u>	Main.	W.C's to Sewer.
<u>Fitzhead</u>	Main.	W.C's to Sewer.
<u>Langford Budville</u>	Main.	W.C's to Cesspool.
<u>Milverton</u>	Main.	W.C's to Sewer.
<u>Nynehead</u>	Private Piped Supply. Water boiled because of contamination.	W.C's to Sewer.
<u>Oake</u>	Main.	W.C's to Sewer.
<u>Sampford Arundel</u>	Private Well.	W.C's to Cesspool.
<u>Stawley</u>	Council house supply.	W.C's to Council house disposal works.
<u>West Buckland</u>	Main.	W.C's to Cesspool.
<u>Wiveliscombe</u>		
<u>Primary</u>	Main.	W.C's to Sewer.
<u>Secondary</u>	Main.	W.C's to Sewer.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The following are details of inspections made during the year :-

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	17	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	23	32	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	33	49	2	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found		Referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	TO H.M.	BY H.M.	
			Inspector	Inspector	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	-	-



# SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

## Number and Nature of Inspections during the year 1957 :-

Dwellingshouses.....	1053
Food Premises .....	325
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.....	49
Water supplies.....	253
Drainage.....	284
Miscellaneous.....	81
	<hr/>
	2045

## Number of Notices served during the year :-

Informal Notices.....	95
Statutory Notices.....	12

## Result of Service of Notices :-

Total Notices complied with.....	87
Notices standing over at the end of 1957.....	20

Shops and Offices (Under the provisions of Sec. 13 (3) of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences of shops), visits made..... 9.

Camping Sites - Licences issued by the Council authorising the use of a site for moveable dwellings..... 1

- Licences issued by the Council (Sec. 269 Public Health Act, 1936) authorising the use of moveable dwellings.. 18

Applications refused..... NIL

Smoke Abatement - Complaints of nuisance dealt with and abatement secured..... NIL

## Wiveliscombe Swimming Bath

No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination.....	14
No. of samples found to be satisfactory.....	14
No. of samples found to be slightly unsatisfactory.....	NIL
No. of samples found to be unsatisfactory.....	NIL

Eradication of Bed-bugs - Cases of bed bugs infestation found during the year..... NIL

Offensive Trades - Number of offensive trades in the District within the meaning of Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936..... NIL

Water - Samples of piped supplies examined periodically during the year..... 104

Bakehouses - Number of inspections of the four Bakehouses in the District..... 11

Three of the bakehouses draw their water supply from public main.

Food.

1. Number of food premises in the area..... 76
2. Number of food premises registered under Section 14 -  
     for sale of Ice Cream..... 18  
     for preparation of other food..... 3
3. Number of inspections to registered food premises..... 40  
     No Ice Cream is made in the area. Sales are of  
     pre-packed ice cream in every case.
4. Clean food guilds etc. are impracticable owing to the  
     scattered nature of the district.
5. Condanned foods are disposed of by incineration, except meat  
     which is stained and released for manufacturing purposes.
6. No special examination of a stock or consignment of food  
     has been necessary.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

Inspections have continued during the year and the general standard of food premises has improved. Improvements obtained include two reconstructions.

There are three Licensed Slaughterhouses in the District. Two of these are in regular use. Regular inspections are carried out. Details of inspections and condemnations are as follows :-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	502	26	32	939	526
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	6	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	2	-	5	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	1.79	7.69	6.25	1.17	0.76
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	1	-	-	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.59	3.85	-	-	3.80
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for :-					
(a) Tuberculosis	220	45	-	-	149
(b) Other	318	15	289	323	22
Total (in lbs.) condemned	538	60	289	323	171



All condemned meat is stained in accordance with Ministry's recommendation.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks - No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the District during the year under review.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1950.

Number of Licenced retailers..... 7

Inspections..... 7

Tuberculosis Order 1925

Cows slaughtered during the year under this order.....NIL

Ice Cream - There are now no producers of ice cream. Eighteen premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream.

Rodent Control - An operator is employed jointly with Taunton R.D.C. During the year the sewers, sewage disposal works and refuse dumps were treated systematically. Private dwelling-houses and business premises were also treated.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	11	2154	347	2512	313
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	5	52	1	58	8
(b) Survey under the Act	6	130	40	176	182
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	-	-	-
III. Total inspections carried out-including re-inspections.	112	321	52	485	225
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major)	-	-	-	-	1
(Minor)	9	55	2	66	25
(b) Mice (Major)	-	2	-	2	-
(Minor)	-	23	1	24	3

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV treated by the L.A.	9	80	2	91	3
VI. Total treatments carried out - incl. re-treatments.	18	80	2	100	3
VII. Number of notices served under Sect: 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect: 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.		8			
XI. Where legal proceedings have been instituted by the Local Authority brief particulars should be given:- -NIL-					
XII. Any other points of interest - NIL.					

River Pollution - The position in this respect has improved with the re-construction of the principal sewage disposal works in the district. The principal cause of pollution is now the drainage from villages which have no proper sewerage and sewage disposal system.



## HOUSING.

Overcrowding - Three houses were recorded as legally overcrowded at the end of the year.

Application for permission to extend the licences in respect of certain condemned dwellings was refused by the Ministry of Housing & Local Government.

14 houses condemned before the war were still occupied at the end of the year.

Further houses are required to rehouse these tenants as well as the occupants of houses condemned since the war and those still to be condemned. The need is mainly for houses or bungalows with one or two bedrooms. While there are one or two large families who should be rehoused, there are large Council houses which are under-occupied.

(1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	26.
(2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	23.
(3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing order	...	...	15.
(4) The number of notices served requiring the execution of works	...	...	3.
(5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	...	3.
(6) The number of demolition or closing orders made	...	...	2.
(7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	7.
(8) The number of houses demolished	...	...	9.

Three Clearance Orders comprising 15 houses were confirmed during the year. The confirmation of two further areas comprising 17 houses is awaited.

The Council's "Points" scheme for the allocation of Council houses is designed to give priority to cases where the following conditions exist :- overcrowding (based on bedroom deficiency); sharing accommodation; defective housing; etc.

## Council Houses

The following table shows the parishes in which the Council have erected houses under the various Acts :-

Parish	Address	No. of Houses	Total for Parish
Ashbottle	Rectory Road	4	4
Bathealton	Avis Cottages	3	3
Bradford-	Regents Green	4	
on-Tone	Tone Green	8	12
Chipstable	Miltons	4	
	Waterrow	4	8
Fitzhead	Church Road	8	
	Hills Cottages	6	14
Langford			
Budville	Reynolds	6	6
Milverton	Lower Fairfield	8	
	Fairfield Terrace	8	
	Newfield	4	
	Courtfield	40	
	Hundsmoor	4	
	Doltons	2	
	Torrells, Hill common	4	
	Creedwell	58	128
Nynehead	Farthings Close	16	16
Oake	Bridge Cottages	4	
	Oake Close	26	30
Sampford	Breach Hill	4	
Arundel	Weekes Meadow	8	12
Stawley	Appley Cross	4	4
Wellington	Lake Cottages,		
Without	Holywell Lake	4	4
West Buckland	Sawyers Hill	4	
	Holway Cottages	4	
	Budgetts Cross	8	
	Castle Cottages, Ham	26	
	Crown Hill	10	
	Frogs Lane Cottages	8	60
Wiveliscombe	Northgate	53	
	Southgate	28	81
Wiveliscombe	Croford	4	
Without	Langley Cross	14	
	Plain Pond	72	
	Langley Marsh	4	94

TOTAL

476

Council tenants are responsible for the internal maintenance of their houses. The number of unsatisfactorily maintained houses in 1957 was 19.

Langford Budville Common - Byelaws under the Commons Act 1899 are in force. Action was taken to deal with one case of illegal camping on the Common.





